



Engaging Elementary Activities with Wordle

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Star the ideas you want to try - add ideas of your own. ☺

General

- Introduction to a new unit. Make predictions about what is to come.
- Show results of class polls by entering students' responses in Wordle.

English Language Arts

- Describe elements of a story.
 - Character traits
 - Enter character's name 10x.
 - Enter most important trait 5x.
 - Enter next most important trait 4x.
 - Continue entering traits in the same manner.
 - Students share their Wordles giving reasons why they chose each trait and its ranking.
 - Description of setting
 - Main idea and supporting details
 - Problem and solution
- Writing analysis
 - Students paste their writing into a Wordle to look for trends, overuse of words, etc.
 - Students paste selections from published texts to analyze author's purpose, words that set the mood, etc.
- Making predictions
 - Pre/Post reading – predict main idea using the Wordle from a selection of text.
- Problem/solution
 - Stop reading after the problem is explained.
 - Students create a Wordle predicting the solution (enter this multiple times) and giving supporting details (enter one time for each detail) about why they think this will be the solution.
- Genre study
 - Students create Wordles representing each genre. Compare and contrast common elements.
 - Create Wordles with text from various genres. Student will determine the genre of the selection and give reasons to support.
- Book review
 - Students identify key words about the plot, characters and setting.
 - Students enter the words multiple times as needed to increase the size of the most important elements.
 - Print and post in classroom library or with book to assist students in self-selected reading.
- Student writing
 - Free-write to brainstorm ideas prior to writing.
 - Paste original writing into a Wordle and analyze word choice as well as trends.

Social Studies

- Study time periods
 - Students create Wordles for time periods.
 - Include key details about each period.
 - Share creations and look for similarities, differences and trends that re-appear.
- Analyze the news

- Create Wordles using news articles from different sources.
- Compare/Contrast Wordles looking for bias.
- Create your own headlines
 - Create a Wordle of a news story.
 - Students use the Wordle to create a headline for the story
- Analyze famous speeches
 - Paste the text of a famous speech into Wordle.
 - A great resource is: American Rhetoric Top 100 Speeches
<http://www.americanrhetoric.com/top100speechesall.html>
 - Use the Wordle to analyze the speech for the main idea and author's purpose.
 - Compare/Contrast speeches by time period, political party, etc.

Character Education

- Create Wordles with positive character traits.
 - Write each student's name on a piece of paper.
 - Pass the papers around the room and have students record a positive character trait for each student.
 - Use the thesaurus to modify any words that are duplicated.
 - Students will create a Wordle for their name using the character traits.

Special Areas

- Library signage
 - Make signs by creating posters for a book series or author, or a section of the library
- Library author studies
 - Students will select an author to study.
 - Students will research the author including biographical information, books written, and any awards received.
 - Students will create Wordles using their notes, weighting components of their research to stand out in the Wordle.
 - Create Wordles using tag clouds for books. Use www.librarything.com.
- PE
 - Students create Wordles with items in each food group.
 - Students create Wordles to show foods eaten on a particular date. Analyze the words that show up the largest and determine if they are eating the proper ratios of foods in the food groups.

**additional
ideas**

Sources:

Forty-Eight Interesting Ways to use Wordle in the Classroom by Tom Barrett
Top 10 Ways to Use Wordle's Word Cloud for Classroom Lessons by Jonathan Wylie
Top 20 Uses for Wordle by Rodd Lucier
50 Ways to Use your Wordle by Nancy J. Keane
Why Wordle? By Steven Anderson
